
8 Finishing

Shoulders

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Summary

CHAPTER EIGHT:

FINISHING

Finishing consists of the final shaping and dressing of shoulders, ditches, and slopes by machine or by hand methods to the required smoothness, elevation, and cross section as shown on the plans, or as directed. Finish work is usually undertaken after the paving has been completed. If the initial grading was not checked for reasonable conformance to the planned cross sections, the finishing operation may produce an excess or deficiency of material.

SHOULDERS

The subgrade is constructed uniformly transversely across the width of the pavement including 2 ft outside the edge of shoulders or curbs. The shoulders are constructed with earth or other approved material which contains no sod, weeds, sticks, roots, or other perishable matter. The inside edges are built up above the surface of the adjoining pavement and compacted with a roller weighing no less than 5t. Rolling and shaping continues until the desired cross section and compaction is obtained. Shoulder areas that are not accessible to the roller are compacted with some other mechanical means that produces satisfactory results. Unless otherwise permitted, the outside edge of shoulder is required to be parallel to the pavement edges and be compacted the full width. The grade and slope of the shoulders may vary through super-elevated curves but in no case should water be allowed to pond at the edge of the pavement or anywhere on the shoulder surface.

DITCHES

Ditches are required to be constructed and finished to the grades and cross section as shown on the plans, or as directed. All ditches are constructed so that they will drain and be free from water pockets. Abrupt changes in grade and alignment of side ditches may cause erosion and should be avoided.

SLOPES

All cut and fill slopes are constructed to the cross sections as shown on the plans, or as revised. Cut and fill slopes are to be finished to the degree ordinarily obtained by a grader blade. Slopes are required to be uniform without bulges and or dips. The length of transition for a slope change should be long enough to avoid the appearance of an abrupt change. A

slight roll back of the slope at the ends of a cut section is desirable for a more pleasing appearance. When finishing rock cuts, the rock face should be carefully inspected for loose or overhanging rock that might fall on the roadway. All loose or overhanging material is required to be removed.

EARTH GRADED ROADS

Earth graded roads are required to be finish graded to a reasonably smooth, uniform grade to at least within +/- 0.1 ft of the required profile and cross section as shown on the plans. Shaping and compacting is required to be conducted with approved equipment capable of providing a well drained, finished roadway.

FINAL TRIMMING AND CLEANING

Final trimming and cleaning consists of trimming and cleaning the otherwise completed highway between right-of-way lines for the entire contract length. At the time of acceptance of the contract, the following conditions are required for the entire length and right-of-way width of the contract.

- 1) All debris and rubbish removed and properly disposed of off of the right-of-way
- 2) All cut and fill slopes and any other areas that were disturbed left reasonably smooth and uniform
- 3) Any loose and overhanging rock removed
- 4) Weeds, brush, and stumps cut close to the ground and properly disposed of as directed
- 5) Waterways left unobstructed
- 6) Bridges cleaned of all rubbish, sand, stone, gravel, and dirt including the floors, roadways, railings, bottom chords, shoes, and seats
- 7) Culverts and other drainage structures left clean for their entire length

These provisions apply for all new construction contracts, including construction of pregrading contracts and paving contracts on pregraded contracts. For new construction of the second lane of a divided highway, the final trimming and cleaning requirement applies only to those areas of the right-of-way that were disturbed by the new construction. Unless otherwise specified for any contract built under traffic, the final trimming

and cleaning provisions apply only to that portion of the right-of-way disturbed by the construction operations.

MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT

Finishing shoulders, ditches, slopes, earth graded roads, and final trimming and cleaning is not measured for payment unless otherwise provided. The cost of these items is included in the various pay items of the contract.

SUMMARY

Public opinion of a newly completed road construction project is based largely on appearance. Careful attention to fine details during the finishing operation may do much to enhance the completed project in the eyes of the consumer.